

WASHINGTON CITY.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14, 1858.

Business Notice.

As the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in its terms, will be conducted strictly on a cash basis, all accounts for the claims of subscribers for the Union, are, of course, closed. No payments should be made to Agents after this date, except to Mr. W. C. Lippincott, Jr., who is authorized to make collections in his own name, Maryland and Virginia.

Whitening Down the Dred Scott Decision.

The Chicago Times is engaged in an industrious attempt to limit and reduce the scope of the Dred Scott decision, in order to reconcile with it the declarations of Judge Douglas at Freeport, in which the Judge asserts for the authorities of the Territories, while yet they are Territories, power to exclude slavery from their limits. The Judge himself endeavored to modify the effect of his declarations by claiming for the territorial legislatures power to introduce as well as to exclude slavery; but either branch of his assertion is heretical and unsound. The purpose of the Dred Scott decision is, that slavery is legalized in the Territories without express law, *proprio vigore* of the constitution; and, therefore, the introduction by express law is unnecessary, as its exclusion by express law would be unconstitutional. When, therefore, Judge Douglas asserts that slavery may be introduced or excluded by territorial legislation he makes a declaration doubly inconsistent with the Dred Scott decision.

The line of defence assumed by the Chicago Times, his personal organ, is that of explaining away the language of the Justices of the Supreme Court, and maintaining that the decision settled nothing but one or two points which were directly and technically before the court. When, for instance, Judge Taney expressly declares, alluding to the Missouri prohibition, that Congress has no power to prohibit slavery in the Territories, and that, consequently, no agent of Congress in a Territory, whether it be the territorial legislature, executive, or judiciary, can exclude it, the Chicago Times would have us believe that these declarations were *obiter dicta* of the Chief Justice, and not, in technical effect, the decision of the court. That there were great principles agreed upon by the majority of the court as the grounds on which they based their decision of the special points before it, makes no difference with the Chicago Times; they were not specially before it for direct decision. Though the points really before the court for decision, and really decided, depended upon the preliminary decision of these others, and were but the mere corollaries of them, still the organ of Mr. Douglas would insist that they were but the *obiter dicta* of the judges; and, whatever Senator Douglas may have said at Freeport in contravention of them, he is not, on that account, to be considered as at variance with the court upon the points technically before it and directly decided by it.

We extract at some length from a late article of Judge Douglas's personal organ, the Times:

Does Senator Douglas repudiate the Dred Scott decision? Dred Scott was a slave of John A. Sanford, and had sued for his freedom in the United States district court of Missouri; and the question before the Supreme Court at Washington was on a writ of error, whether the plaintiff, being a negro of slave parentage, could sue in the United States court? That was the only question in the case. Chief Justice Taney himself states the question thus:

1. Had the district court of the United States jurisdiction to hear and determine the case between these parties? And, 2. If it had jurisdiction, is the judgment it has given erroneous or not?

Nowhere in the opinion, as published by the reporter to the court for the Senate of the United States, is there any intimation that the case involved any other ultimate questions than those already stated.

The closing paragraph of Judge Taney's opinion embraces the whole decision in condensed form. We here copy it, and invite the reader especially to note it:

"Upon the whole, therefore, it is the judgment of this court that it appears by the record before us that the plaintiff in error is a citizen of Missouri, in the sense in which that word is used in the constitution; and that the circuit court of the United States, for that reason, had no jurisdiction in the case, and could give no judgment in it. Its judgment for the defendant must, consequently, be reversed, and a mandate issued directing the suit to be dismissed for want of jurisdiction."

The decision disposes of it all. There has been seen, of just the two questions which the court announced in its beginning; no other question is even so much as hinted at in the summing up of the points.

Will any person pretend to say that Senator Douglas repudiates the Dred Scott decision, as it stands on the records of the court? When and where has he uttered or authorized to be uttered a sentiment, or made such an inference could be drawn? What, we ask, is there, in all the speeches of Senator Douglas, or in the editorial of the journals in Illinois, and throughout the land which support him, to warrant the accusation? As for ourselves, we accept the Dred Scott decision as embodying the true law of the constitution, and the plainest common sense. We endorse that decision in all its length and breadth; but we will not pass over to a position that the Supreme Court has not taken, much established, and against which all the dictates of an intelligent intellect rebel. On this ground we took position early and boldly in defence of the decision in controversy, and on the same ground the Times last winter, when the Washington Union undertook to expound that decision in support of its assertion that it legalized slavery in all the Territories, not only, but in all the States, and this whether slavery was wanted by the people or whether it was detested by them—on the same ground, we repeat, and with the same conscientious motives, that we defended the decision as pronounced by Chief Justice Taney, we denounce it as warped and counterfeited by the misnomers of the Washington Union. And now that that journal, aided by the allied press of Illinois, is at its infamous work again, we shall not hold back.

Dred Scott was declared not a citizen of the United States, and consequently could not sue in the district court of the United States. The reverse had previously been declared in Missouri, and the court consequently caused a mandate to be issued annulling the judgment of the inferior tribunal. That is what we mean when we say that the case, that was of it, it is all that the court decided; it was the whole of its action relative to it. In reaching these conclusions, it is true, the court asserted that the Missouri restriction was unconstitutional. And we agree that it was. The court asserted many other propositions, all of which, perhaps, were sound, but all that is not material to any point now involved. It has never been intimated that the Supreme Court decided anything but the many points in the argument by which they fortified their decision to an equality of authority with the decision itself; and even if they did, it should dispute that they possess any authority to do so. The Supreme Court decided, and we support the decision most heartily, that so far as federal laws operate in the Territories of the United States, slave property is on the same footing as any other class of property; and we agree, too, that the territorial legislature is incompetent to enact laws excluding slave property; but we deny that the federal government can compel the people of a Territory to enact extra encouragements and guards to slavery against their will. This we understand to be Senator Douglas's opinion.

It must be confessed that the Times' mode of relieving Judge Douglas from the imputation of hostility to the Dred Scott decision is as irresistible as an ingenious. "The court decided that Dred Scott was not a citizen in the sense of the constitution; and that the court below had, therefore, no jurisdiction in

the case. That was the whole decision of the court; and Judge Douglas said nothing at Freeport to show that Dred Scott was a citizen, or that the court had jurisdiction of his case. Therefore, Judge Douglas did not repudiate the decision. *Quod erat demonstrandum.*" Such is the special pleading of Judge Douglas's personal organ. Is it satisfactory to the country; to the democratic party; to the South?

The Times is ready to battle for the decision, and stoutly to maintain what it did decide; but it protests that it "will not pass onward to a position against which all the dictates of an intelligent intellect rebel," by supporting the Washington Union "in its assertion that the decision legalizes slavery in all the Territories and in all the States." We will not stop here to deny, again, that the Union ever contended that the federal constitution legalized slavery in the free States; but we have said, and so did a majority of the justices decide in the Dred Scott case, that slavery is legal under the constitution in all the Territories, needing no law to introduce it; as no law that can be passed by Congress or the territories can exclude it from the latter. That is a proposition which Judge Douglas and his organ, the Times, denies. That is a proposition which the Dred Scott decision affirms. That is the proposition "against which" the personal organ of Mr. Douglas protests, for him, that "all the dictates of an intelligent intellect rebel." In the teeth of such a protest it is the basest effrontery for the Times to deny that either itself or Judge Douglas repudiates the Dred Scott decision; as it is in the last degree weak and idle for it to attempt to sustain its denial by refining and hair-splitting upon the technicalities of the court's judgment.

In connection with this preposterous attempt of the Chicago Times to reconcile Judge Douglas's squatter-sovereignty doctrines with the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case we cannot help referring to a late article of the Richmond Enquirer, which we interpret as indited ironically, on Judge Douglas's declarations at Freeport. The Enquirer sympathizes with Gov. Wise and Hon. Mr. Millon, of Virginia, in the poor opinion those gentlemen are known to entertain of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. For a year or more the Enquirer has been disposed very freely to criticize that bill, not only as furnishing no protection to slaveholders in the Territories, but as laying them under positive disadvantages therein through the operation of the Badger clause.

The Enquirer regards the declarations of Judge Douglas at Freeport as a confession, by the author of the bill himself, of all that it has been saying in complaint of the defects of the Kansas-Nebraska act. Alluding to these defects it charges that "members of Congress have no right to shift the responsibility from their own shoulders to that of their territorial delegates," of providing positive legislation for the protection of rights in the Territories which the constitution acknowledges, but which the Kansas-Nebraska act does not secure. It, therefore, calls, with a great deal of apparent confidence but ably concealed sarcasm, upon Judge Douglas and Congress "to intervene to protect slavery in the Territories" from the evils of such "unfriendly legislation" on the part of the territorial legislatures, as Judge Douglas confesses is not provided against by his own Nebraska-Kansas bill. In other words, the Enquirer seems to defend Judge Douglas in his Freeport speech by assailing the alleged defects of his Nebraska-Kansas bill.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRACY AT SPRINGFIELD—SPEECH OF MR. FITCH.

We publish a synopsis of the proceedings of the late meeting of the national democracy at Springfield, Illinois. Among the several able speeches delivered on the occasion was the brilliant and piquant one of Henry S. Fitch, esq., which we publish to-day. We hope to publish very soon one or two of those delivered by other gentlemen.

Mr. Fitch presents the issue of the Illinois canvass in the clear and graphic style peculiar to himself. The reader will be richly entertained by his remarks, which are unusually happy. His powers of antithesis are fine. His allusion to Judge Douglas's action in striking out of the Toombs bill the clause requiring a submission of the constitution of Kansas to the people, and in then making war upon the President and Congress for "violating a clause which he himself prevented from being in the bill," is admirable. The whole speech is a treat.

APPRECIATION BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OF UNITED STATES SURVEYS.

We learn from Sir Roderick Murchison's address at the "anniversary meeting of the Royal Geographical Society," that the British Admiralty are re-engraving and publishing, for the use of the commercial marine, Commander Th. J. Page's charts of the Panama and Paraguay. The British government is fully aware of the importance of the fruitful field presented to England's commercial enterprise in the basin of La Plata, and will avail itself of every means for the extension of its trade into those fertile regions.

THE FUSION OF THE BRODERICK PARTY.

A gentleman residing in this city has received a letter from his son in California, dated August 19th, in which he says: "You will see by the papers that the Broderick party, or left wing of the black-republican party, in this State, has fused with the Simon-pure woolly-heads. The administration or national democracy will, however, gain a complete victory."

THE TRIAL OF THE SLAVERS.

The trial of the slavers at Charleston, on a writ of *habeas corpus*, was closed on Friday last, Judge McGrath refusing to grant the prayer of the petitioners, Judge McGrath, in his opinion, holds the following language: "I readily concede that commitment for further examination must not be so used as to operate in place of a commitment for trial; and this, or any other abuse of the power of the magistrate, will be corrected. The court will not only relieve, but the party will have his action against the magistrate. In there in this case any evidence of an abuse by the commissioner of his authority? The arrest is said to have been made on the 28th August, and the accused from that day until the present time are held under a commitment for further examination. In the examinations under the statutes of Philip and Mary, it is laid down that there is no precise limitation of time, which must depend on the circumstances of each particular case; there are many instances, it is said, of prisoners being detained more than twenty days between their first being brought before a justice and their commitment for trial.—1 Clifty Cr. Law, 73. I am not to presume that the court will be so lenient in its conclusions; and if it were, and had continued so long as to induce me to think that the original cause of it could not be valid, or worthy of further investigation, I might discharge the accused (S. E. C. L. R. 76) or relieve them upon adequate security being given for their appearance. 1 Clifty Cr. Law, 130. But within that period of time, which exceeds 90 days for the purpose of examination, has been held not unreasonable, I could not undertake to say that the delay which in this case has taken place is unreasonable."

THE WASHINGTON UNION.

THE RECENT BOUNTY-LAND FRAUDS IN TENNESSEE.

Not long since the Commissioner of Pensions, having discovered that an attempt was being made to obtain bounty-land warrants through his office by means of false and forged papers by some person residing at Chattanooga, Tennessee, despatched a special agent to that place with a view to ascertain who the impostor was and bring him to justice. It was soon ascertained that he was J. W. White, a prominent lawyer of Chattanooga, and a popular known member of the State Legislature. The charge was examined by United States Commissioner Lowry and Judge Grant of the State court, who acquitted White of the charge brought against him.

It will be recollected how exultingly this acquittal was trumpeted forth by the know-nothing organs in East Tennessee. The government officials were too well satisfied by White's position and influence, or to submit to the extraordinary conduct of Messrs. Lowry and Grant, acting as they were as a mere committing court. They only desired a fair and impartial investigation, and that they seemed determined to have. Accordingly, White was rearrested some ten days since, and taken before Judge Humphreys, of the United States district court. White's counsel found the United States court fully prepared and fortified at all points with the requisite evidence, after the testimony of two witnesses for the prosecution was given, that he came forward and entered his recognizance in the sum of \$25,000, with ample security, for White's appearance at the November term of the United States district court.

It was magnanimous and commendable in the officers of government engaged in this matter to adopt extraordinary measures in order that White's examination might take place at his own home, surrounded by his numerous and devoted friends. Every now and then we hear of arrests and convictions for frauds upon the Pension Office, and feel surprised that these oft-repeated demonstrations of the certainty of detection and punishment do not deter others from the commission of similar offences, and we have almost come to the conclusion that the pension and bounty-land system—founded originally in the humanity and beneficence of our government—possesses some peculiar demoralizing tendency.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT LOAN.

The Bankers' Magazine for September, in reference to the last loan of 5 percent, says that, as the government loan bearing 6 percent interest is selling at 116 percent, the late 5 percent loan of 1874 is worth \$1 10, and at that rate it pays the same rate of interest. The above cannot be generally known among the holders of the 6 percent loan, or they would convert their 6 percent into the 5 percent, and thus save about 5 percent of the premium which they are losing at the rate of about 14 percent per annum.

MAILS FOR THE BERMUDA ISLANDS.

We are requested to state that arrangements have been made for the transmission of letters in sealed bags between the United States and Bermuda by means of the British mail packets plying between Boston and Halifax, Nova Scotia, and between Halifax and Bermuda, the United States inland postage only, of 5 cents the single rate, to be prepaid in this country on letters sent, and collected on letters received. The British sea rate of eight cents per half-ounce letter, together with the colonial postage where chargeable, will be collected in Bermuda, both on letters sent and received.

Mails will be made up at the New York and Boston offices for transmission by every alternate British packet from Boston, commencing with the packet of 22d September instant.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Four Days Later from Europe—Arrival of the Vanderbilt.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—The American steamer Vanderbilt, from Havre and Southampton on the 1st instant, arrived here last night with Liverpool advices of the same date. She brings 355 passengers.

The general news is not of great importance. The Queen had returned to England.

Nearly £1,500,000 in gold were on the way from Australia.

Twelve vessels had been wrecked on the English coast, but the crews and passengers, with one exception, were saved.

Mr. Morphy, the American chess-player, had played eight games blindfolded at one time, at the Birmingham Chess Congress, winning all but one.

Messrs. Rudolph, Jung & Co., silk merchants in Paris, have suspended. Their liabilities are very large.

The late Turkish ministry has been ousted and a new one appointed.

AUSTRIA.—The Austrian government had addressed a circular to its agents respecting the navigation of the Danube. The imperial government had become alarmed at the preponderant refusal of the plenipotentiaries at the Paris conference to submit to the arrangements made by Austria for counteracting the treaty of Paris.

BAVARIA.—A letter from Munich, of the 24th, says: The marriage of the Duchess Helena, of Bavaria, sister of the Empress of Austria, with the hereditary Prince of Four and a half, was celebrated to-day at the castle of Posenhofen.

AUSTRALIA.—The Victorian Parliament stood adjourned to the 10th of August, and will meet early in October.

The import trade is dull, but not unhealthy. The exports in the six months exceeded the imports by \$385,000. The wool market was unchanged. Tallow in moderate demand. Exchange banks pay at one per cent. discount and sell at par. In October the railway debentures will begin to be transmitted, not exceeding £150,000 per month.

INDIA.—A despatch from Malta, dated August 29, says: Sir Hope Grant left Lucknow on the 20th July to relieve Major Singh and to capture Fyzabad. The Rajpoot rebels, after plundering Tonk, had fled towards the Chambul, pursued by Colonel Holmes Roberts. The Bombay import market was active.

The following despatch was received at the East India House:

The fugitive rebels from Gwalior, after making a demonstration against Boondoe on the 19th July, attempted to cross the Bundels, but failed. On the 13th they were menaced both by Boondoe and Baghore. The Neemuch force had prepared to move on the 1st August for the purpose of co-operation with Holmes' column, which was last heard of at Boondoe.

The rebels are in considerable force, their number being estimated at 4,000 or 5,000 fighting men, with five guns. Their leaders are Tantia Toppe, Yedial, and others.

A small force from Ahmedabad, under Major Brines, had been pushed forward to Timnour, (?) with instructions to march on Kheirwarra, if necessary.

The Savant Desmases have offered to submit to the Portuguese government. The amnesty purporting to have been issued by the governor-general, and published in the Bombay overland papers of the 19th July, has been officially declared to be an entire fabrication.

CHINA.—The Paris *Monitor* contains the following:

THE SIX, June 19, 1858.

The wishes of the Emperor have been fulfilled in China. That vast empire is thrown open to Christianity, and nearly the whole of it to the commerce and industry of the West. Our diplomatic agents will be allowed to reside temporarily at Peking. Our missionaries will be admitted everywhere. A Chinese envoy will be sent to Paris. The murder of the missionary Chapeleuil is to be punished; it will be announced in the Peking Gazette. The laws against Christianity are to be revoked. All the engagements are taken and in part secured (consigned) under the seal of the imperial commissioners. France and England obtain the most ample concessions.

COMMERCIAL.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 1.—Sales of cotton for three days 19,000 bales, including 1,000 on speculation, and 2,000 for export; the remainder to the trade. The market was quiet, but steady, with a declining tendency on inferior qualities, and quotations were barely maintained. Manchester affairs were favorable.

Breadstuffs.—Flour was firm at an advance of 6d. closing quiet. Wheat was higher, closing quiet; red western 56d a 54 1/2; white do, 63 1/2 a 62 1/2; white southern 60 1/2 a 74 1/2. Corn was dull. Potatoes were steady. Lard quiet at 60s 6d a 62s.

General Produce.—Spirits turpentine steady at 38s 6d

a 59s. Roan steady at 4s 2d a 4s 3d. Sugar quiet. Coffee firm. Rice dull.

The Illinois Contest.

SPRINGFIELD, (Ill.) Sept. 13.—Judge Breese, the administration candidate for senator in Illinois, in a card denied that he has withdrawn in favor of Judge Douglas. He denounces the disorganizers against the honor and integrity of the democratic party.

Baltimore Anniversary.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 13.—The anniversary of the battle of North Point, although occurring yesterday, is being celebrated to-day by a general suspension of business. The principal feature of the day is the removal of the bodies of Wells and McComas to a spot selected in the city, where a monument is to be erected. A large military and civil procession escorted the remains. Flags were displayed and guns fired along the route.

Naval Intelligence.

NORFOLK, Sept. 13.—The United States practice ship Preble arrived here yesterday from her cruise, and proceeds to Annapolis to-day.

The Yellow Fever.

CHARLESTON, Sept. 13.—The number of deaths last week from the yellow fever was 103.

SAVANNAH, Sept. 13.—The chairman of the board of health reports a few sporadic cases of yellow fever since Wednesday last, and these of a mild type. There is no epidemic.

Markets.

NEW YORK, September 13.—Cotton is active—sales of 2,300 bales. The Vanderbilt's advices had a tendency to weaken prices, but the market closed without any notable change. Flour closed heavy, with sales of 13,000 bbls.—State, \$4 90 a \$5; Ohio, \$5 50 a \$5 65; Southern is heavy and nominal. Wheat closed lower, with sales of \$1 30 a \$1 35. Corn closed active, with sales of 75,000 bushels—mixed, 65 a 72 cents; white, 80 cents. Pork is heavy—mess, \$17 35 a \$17 40; prime, \$15 a \$15 65. Beef is quiet. Lard is quiet, at 11 1/2 a 11 1/4. Whiskey is firm, at 24 cents. Sugar is dull—Muscovado, 74 a 83 cents. Coffee is quiet—Rio, 92 a 113 cents. Spirits Turpentine is dull, at 48 cents. Rice is heavy, at \$1 72. Rice is dull.

THE WELLS AND MCCOMAS MONUMENT—LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BUCHANAN.

(From the Baltimore American, Sept. 13.)

The following is a copy of a letter received in reply to one from the executive committee of the Wells and McComas Monument Association. It will be seen that the President will not be in Baltimore on Monday to participate in the ceremonies attending the interment of the remains of these gallant young men:

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have received your kind invitation, in behalf of the "Wells and McComas Monument Association," to be present on the 15th inst. at the interment of the remains of the two young men who fell at North Point whilst gallantly repelling the advance of Gen. Ross and his followers on the city of Baltimore, in 1814, preparatory to the erection of a suitable monument to mark their heroic pluck.

I should gladly accept this invitation and witness the honors which the association intend to confer upon the memory of the youthful volunteers who were killed in defending their country and their homes. It is a tribute of patriotism and gratitude to those who shed their blood in a just and glorious cause, and is worthy of the warmest sympathies. In that place a few days ago was developed the plot of a combination of politicians to overthrow the administration of President Buchanan. The occasion was this: A meeting was called for the purpose of concerting measures to secure the re-election of Hon. J. B. Haskin to Congress. To address the meeting many persons were invited. These persons either accepted the invitations, or wrote their regrets, and expressed themselves in favor of the project.

Yours, very respectfully,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

TARRYTOWN.

(From the Washington Daily Argus, Sept. 10.)

We presume that few of our readers have heard of Tarrytown, in the State of New York, and it makes but little difference whether they have or not, so far as anything that has occurred in the past is concerned. But it is important that they should now know something about what has recently been done in that village, for it has become famous. In that place a few days ago was developed the plot of a combination of politicians to overthrow the administration of President Buchanan. The occasion was this: A meeting was called for the purpose of concerting measures to secure the re-election of Hon. J. B. Haskin to Congress. To address the meeting many persons were invited. These persons either accepted the invitations, or wrote their regrets, and expressed themselves in favor of the project.

Now, here are the names of some of the invited: John W. Forney, Horace Greeley, Thos. L. Harris, III., S. A. Grow, Pa., F. Blair, Mo., E. B. Washburne, Ill., and others were others of the same kind. Mr. Haskin was a violent opponent of Mr. Buchanan at the last session of Congress. He is what is called an anti-Leocompton democrat, such as Mr. Douglas and Mr. Harris and Mr. Wise.

Well, his anti-friends have come to his support and written and spoken in favor of his re-election. That might in itself, without connecting circumstances, be well enough. But when we see Mr. Harris and Mr. Greeley entertaining a conference of opinion in regard to the policy of nominating a candidate for Congress, it is calculated to arouse suspicion. The same is true in regard to Grow and Forney. And then when such black-republicans as Blair and Davis and Washburne come up to the rescue of a democrat, we are filled with overfearing with incomprehensibility. Douglas and Harris are cronies. They are indissolubly united in their political fortunes. Harris and Greeley concur in opinion. Consequently, Douglas and Greeley sympathize with each other. Greeley is a soldier in the democratic army or Douglas is a soldier in the black-republican army. The two are adherents, unite in measures to overthrow a democratic administration. When we have arrived at this logical conclusion there is no great difficulty in determining which are the principals and which the abettors in the work.

Douglas, Harris, Forney, Hickman and their associates, are playing second fiddle to the black-republicans to destroy and overthrow the President of the United States. It is now plain against them. They are no better political than are their associates, and in party warfare should be so regarded.

AMERICAN CONVERTS IN ROM.—A correspondent of the Freeman's Journal (Catholic) writes:

"ROM, Vigil of the Assumption, 1858.

"After vesper prayers, the Most Rev. Cajetan Bedini, archbishop of Thebes, secretary of the Propaganda, &c., baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, of Virginia, the distinguished sculptor, the Rev. J. Hoffman, of Maryland, was godfather, and Mrs. Portia Branda, of Virginia, who is so true a representative of the accomplished American lady, was godmother. Mr. Rogers was present, and took the deepest interest in the ceremony, although he is a Catholic. Many Americans were present. Among them Miss J. Mulberry. She was in earnest conversation with the Most Rev. Archbishop Bedini as the latter entered his carriage. Whether on Church affairs, or State affairs, I cannot say—only, as the Archbishop's voice was somewhat raised at the words: 'Let Americans come to Rome, like that have just baptised and sanctified the souls of the Catholics, and it will cement the union of the States, and perpetuate the liberties of the country more than standing armies, colossal navies, or the devices of worldly statesmen.' These were about the words used, though I lose their meaning in my translation."

A CHEAP BAROMETER.—The cheapest barometer for household use is made by putting a common leech into a phial of water, which may be hung up anywhere in the shade, near a door or window. The leech is peculiarly sensitive to approaching atmospheric changes. If the weather proves serene and mild, he remains motionless at the bottom of the glass, rolled up in a spiral form. If it is discovered at the surface of the water, you may be certain that rain is about to occur, as there he will stay till it comes on and the weather becomes settled. If a windy time is to occur, he sports with great and incessant activity through the water, and seldom rests until the blow has actually come on. If a heavy storm of thunder and rain is to ensue, he keeps his head above water, and almost constantly outside the water, and discovers a continued uneasiness of movement. In the frost, as in clear summer weather, it lies constantly at the bottom of the glass; and in snow, as in rainy weather, it pitches its dwelling upon the very mouth of the phial, which should be left unopened to enable the animal to breathe, but a linen rag should be stretched over it to prevent an escape. A common eight-ounce phial is large enough, filled about three-fourths with hydrant water. During the summer months the water should be changed once a week, and in winter once a fortnight. If two leeches be placed in the same phial, the uniformity of their movements will be far more striking, and deserving of the attention of every amateur naturalist. This weather glass is almost as cheap as a physical almanac, and much more reliable.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamship Star of the West, from Aspinwall, with California dates to the 20th ult., arrived at New York at midnight on Sunday. She has nearly \$1,700,000 in treasure.

Financial matters are reported to be easy beyond anything previously known in the history of California. The collections are highly satisfactory, and money had gone a begging at 10 to 11 per cent. on merchandise securities. The business portion of Georgetown, in El Dorado county, was destroyed by fire on the 10th of August, involving a loss of \$100,000.

On the 4th of August, a desperate affray occurred between some French and American miners, in regard to their right to a mining claim. It resulted in the death of three Americans and the wounding of three others. Senator Broderick designs travelling to Washington by the overland route.

SUMMARY OF THE FORNIGHT'S NEWS.

(From the Alta California, Aug. 20.)

On the 5th of August the anti-Leocompton convention at Sacramento nominated for supreme judge John C. Curry, of Solano county; for comptroller, I. N. Dawley, of Nevada; for supreme court clerk, H. W. Jennings, of Butte county; Hon. Jos. C. McKinley, was also nominated for Congress: Wm. L. Dudley, of Calaveras, was nominated for Congress.

The Leocomptonites of the same day nominated J. G. Baldwin as their candidate for judge of the supreme court; A. R. McInnes, of Contra Costa, as comptroller. They made no nomination for supreme court clerk.

The republican convention endorsed the nomination of Curry for judge, but nominated F. P. Tracy, vice Dudley. They also nominated Dr. S. Gunn, of Toulumene, as comptroller.

The difficulties between J. C. Fremont and the Merced Mining Company still continue. The latter refuse to give possession of their vein, and the men who occupy it insist that they will resist.

The overland mail from Salt Lake reached Placerville on the 16th. The carrier brings the painful intelligence of the murder of Joseph Condit, Charles Conover, Elias Etheridge, and Theodore Barban, guards of the mail which left Placerville July 31. They were killed by Shoshones, about twenty miles from Gravelly Ford.

Shoshones about Humboldt Bay are exceedingly troublesome. A man named Orris Stevens was killed by them on the 16th ult., and another, named John Vandal, on the 20th.

A number of the troops which arrived on the Golden Gate deserted in citizens' clothes. A portion of them were arrested.

The republican county convention have nominated for the senate Gen. C. S. H. Williams and S. H. Parker, esq., and for the assembly W. W. Shepard, B. W. Hathaway, J. M. Taylor, J. W. Cherry, and A. A. Hill. The convention has yet three further nominations for assembly to make before the roll is completed.

The amount of gold bullion deposited for coinage during the week ending the 7th amounted to 16,095 70 ounces. The gold coinage for the week was \$385,000, all in double eagles.

The steamer Pacific arrived on the 7th from Victoria, bringing 350 passengers. The ship E. F. Willette on the same day with 147 passengers, from the same locality.

During the last ten days 1,000 Chinamen have landed on our shores.

FROM THE FRASER RIVER MINES.

Our dates from Victoria are to the 14th of August, and from Fort Yale, Fraser river, to August 11. Up to one week of the latest dates from the mining region the river remained too high for operation on the bars. This had caused great despondency among the people on the banks of the river, who were waiting for the waters to subside. About the 5th of August the river began to fall; and on the 11th, our latest date, many miners had been working on the bars for several days. The yield of gold was very rich. The lowest counts put it down at \$7 a \$8 to the man per day; the highest \$50 a \$75.

Provisions in the mines are comparatively cheap. In Victoria there was felt a stagnation in business. Real estate was unsaleable. The market had been overstocked with goods from San Francisco, and commercial transactions were dull. No rich "dry diggings" had yet been discovered of any extent. The miners were pushing up towards the head of the streams; and saw that the waters are subsiding, they will experience less difficulty on the way. By the next steamer we expect to be able to send to the east some exciting news from Fraser river.